

WELL DEVELOPMENTS

No. 21

Board of Water Well Contractors

October 1998

BOARD MEMBERS

Bob Bergantino, MBMG Member

Pat Byrne, Industry Member

Kevin Haggerty, Industry Member

Eric Regensburger, DEQ Member

Laurence Siroky, DNRC Member

APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD



Pat Byrne

Pat Byrne was reappointed by Governor Marc Racicot to another three-year term on the Board of Water Well Contractors. Pat has served for two terms on the Board and is the chairman. ♦

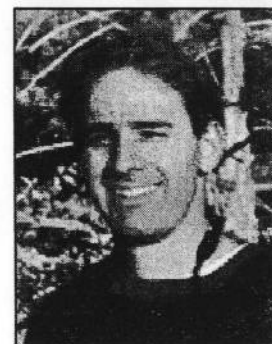
Photo by Jim Bond

Eric Regensburger has been appointed by Mark Simonich, Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), for a three-year term on the Board of Water Well Contractors.

Eric is a hydrogeologist for DEQ in Helena. He has been with the Subdivision Section for 2½ years and is responsible for conducting the non-degradation reviews for larger subdivisions

in the state. Prior to that, he was a regional sales manager for a data logger manufacturer in Laramie, Wyoming, and worked for an environmental consulting firm in Florida for five years. While in Florida, Eric had the opportunity to supervise installation of many shallow monitoring wells and several deep municipal production wells.

Eric has a Bachelor's degree in geology from the State University of



Eric Regensburger

New York at Albany and a Master's degree in hydrogeology from Syracuse University. He is also a registered professional geologist in the state of Florida. ♦

WELL LOG REPORTS

Well log report forms continue to be of concern to the Board of Water Well Contractors (BWWC), Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), and the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology (MBMG).

The last newsletter (No. 20, issued in

March 1998) indicated that drillers can enter latitude and longitude by Global Positioning System (GPS) readings instead of location by section, township, and range. The DNRC regional offices that receive the logs do not yet have the computer program established to convert GPS data to section, township and range for the water

right records. We regret the inconvenience caused to drillers who have turned completely to GPS methods. However, you will have to continue to submit locations by section, township, and range until the computers can be set up to convert the data. There is no short-term solution to this problem, and

you will be advised when GPS data can be used.

MBMG has also expressed concern about the accuracy of data received by GPS methods. Drillers who have already converted to GPS methods may call MBMG at 496-4150 or 496-4180 to convert GPS back to section, (Continued on Page 3)

WELLS INTENDED TO USE 35 GALLONS PER MINUTE OR 10 ACRE-FEET PER YEAR

Water Well contractors/drillers should advise well owners that all applicants for new beneficial uses of groundwater from a well or developed spring that exceeds 35 gallons per minute (gpm) or 10 acre-feet (af) of water

per year are required to obtain a water right permit from DNRC prior to development. (Before July 1, 1991, the limitation was 100 gpm.) Application materials are available from the nearest Water Resources Regional offices statewide.

Please call 444-6610 for further information.

To receive a Certificate of Water Right, for developments of 35 gpm or 10 af or less the well owner only needs to file a Notice of Completion (Form

602), along with a \$25 filing fee, within 60 days after completion.

Fees, forms and review are more extensive if the development of water exceeds 35 gpm or 10 af. ♦

HISTORICAL BOARD MEETINGS

The seventh meeting of the Water Well Contractors' Examining Board was held in Helena, February 20, 1962. An examination was held at 9:00 A.M. in the State Senate Chambers for the Water Well Contractors from out of state and for those who did not qualify for a license under the "grandfather clause." The board recessed at

11:45 A.M. until 1:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. by the chairman of the board, Mr. Fred E. Buck. Those present were: Mr. Buck, Mr. C. W. Brinck, and Mr. Bert VanDyken. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

Mr. William Love of

Billings appeared before the board to discuss his qualifications as a water well contractor in the state of Montana. He showed the board pictures of a drilling rig he had made and stated that he used only a driving rig. The board told him they would take it up with the Attorney General but doubted that a limited license could

be issued, as they could not write into the law something that was not in it. Mr. Brinck made a motion that the following applicants for a Water Well Contractors License be approved as they have met the qualifications under the "grandfather clause," have paid their fee, and posted a bond. The motion was seconded by Mr. VanDyken and passed by voice vote. ♦

Osmond W. Estenson
Leonard Darwin Leland
John H. Derr
Hanson Drilling Co.
Harold Picken
Roscoe Peet

Antelope
Ismay
Wolf Point
White Sulphur Springs
Missoula
Great Falls

Big Snow Drilling Co.
Robert W. Haggerty
Everett B. Henry
Delmas H. Baird
Great Northern Drilling
Henry Briant

Billings
Glendive
Cut Bank
Ekalaka
Billings
Ekalaka

NEW LICENSEES

The Board welcomes the following new licensees as of July 1, 1998.

Water Well Contractors:

Brett Douglas	Roberts
Jim Foley	Missoula
Glen Frachiseur	Idaho
Jeff Hendrickson	Oregon
Dan Kneller	Libby
Richard Scrivner	Dillon
Aaron Weidow	Hamilton
Dave Scoggins	Libby
Butch Tiemeyer	Big Fork

Water Well Drillers:

Frank Chappell	Missoula
Tony Counts	Bozeman
Todd Fisher	Troy
Mark Gale	Bozeman
Tom Hunsker	Joliet
Joe Liss	Eureka
James Orr	Lincoln
Randy Todd	Bozeman
Al Weirsema	Manhattan

Monitoring Well Constructors:

Dave Erickson	Butte
Mike Lloyd	Helena
Dave Scoggins	Libby
Butch Tiemeyer	Big Fork

Well log reports offer a wealth of information to geologists, contractors, and drillers on the lithology of underground structures; this information can be used in projecting the occurrence of water on certain land and at a certain depth. Information in a well log report, however, is not valid if the land description of the well location is wrong. The problem becomes more complex when an individual who is looking for information may not be able to find the well according to the land description under which it was logged. Also, the erroneous

land description on the report could place the information in an area with much different actual lithology. Thus, the well log report could be used to project an occurrence of water or lack of water erroneously, based on the wrong information.

Who is responsible for supplying the land description? Section 85-2-516, MCA, requires a water well contractor or driller to submit a completed well log report to DNRC within 60 days after the well is completed. Because filing this report is the licensee's responsibility, and because the

department requires the land description as part of the completed report, the responsibility falls on the licensee. Some contractors have guessed at the well location because obtaining a land description from the well owner was difficult. These problems can result in producing a well log report of no value. A number of contractors are addressing this problem by requiring the proper land description as part of the

drilling agreement with the well owner.

BWWC recognizes that not all contractors use drilling contracts or agreements, and also that problems occasionally arise in obtaining land descriptions. This recognition, however, does not provide a solution. The DNRC regional offices will return a well log report that doesn't include a proper land description. ♦

DRY HOLE WELL LOG REPORT

BWWC has noticed that licensees are not filing well log reports on dry holes. According to ARM 36.21.679 (2), on page 27 of the new rule book, a well log report must be filed on all dry holes. The rule also provides that dry or inadequate wells must either be constructed as though they were a producing well, with proper sealing procedures followed, or else be properly abandoned.

The information included in the well log report not only benefits the MBMG database, but it also helps the licensee. Knowing the number of dry holes and their depth in a given area can be as helpful as knowing the number and depth of producing wells. ♦

WELL LOGS

(continued from Page 1)

township and range. To improve the accuracy of the GPS readings, training schools are being planned on using GPS equipment.

Section 9 of the well log report form is entitled "Well Test Data." This section was separated from the pump test data to allow the driller to provide sufficient information on static level, pumping or bailing levels, and gallons per minute (gpm) for the one-hour period that testing is required. You are required to fill in the line items in Section 9 from the one-hour test, specifically, the starting

static water level; the level after air lifting, bailing, or pumping for one-hour; and the gpm. If you are using a pump for this test enter the pumping rate. The driller is not required to fill out Section 10, but it is on the well log report form in the event that additional pump testing is done. The intent of board rule 36.21.664(2) is that pump testing beyond the one-hour minimum requirement is to be done properly, and not that pump testing is required beyond one-hour. ♦

CONTINUING EDUCATION SCHEDULE

The Montana Environmental Training Center (METC) has scheduled the following training sessions that may be of value to water well licensees and fulfill the four-hour continuing education requirement of BWWC:

Pumps and Motors

October 27, 1998 Billings, Montana

Communication Skills

November 5, 1998 Great Falls, Montana

National Ground Water Association

Annual Convention

December 13-16, 1998 Las Vegas, Nevada

Montana Water Well Drillers Association

Annual Convention

February 2-5, 1999 Helena, Montana

The Board of Water Well Contractors and METC have discussed training sessions that may be more specific to water well and monitoring well construction. If you have suggestions for training, please contact Bob Rudio at 444-6643 or Jan Boyle at 454-2728.

Most training schools by suppliers and manufacture's begin in the spring of the year. You should contact your suppliers for upcoming schedules. ♦

375 copies of this document were published at an estimated cost of 16¢ per copy. The total cost of \$172 includes \$60 for printing and \$112 for distribution.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Montana Department of Natural
Resources & Conservation
Board of Water Well Contractors
P.O. Box 201601
48 North Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59620-1601

